Remarks and Arguments

Applicants have/has carefully considered the Office Action dated October 4, 2003 and the references cited therein. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the application.

The Examiner has objected to Figs. 1, and 6-7 of the drawings alleging that they include reference characters not mentioned in the specification. Regarding the objection of Figure 1, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to page 15, line 4 of the application, as filed, which clearly describes a memory 60, as illustrated in Figure 1. Regarding the objection to Figures 6A-B, Applicants have amended the specification at the paragraph beginning on page 37, line 9, to include references to internal caches 610 and 611 of loaders L1 and L2, respectively. In addition, Applicants have amended the specification at the paragraph beginning on page 41, line 15 to include a reference to step 740.
No new matter is believed added to the application by way of the proposed amendments to the figures as set forth herein.

Further, Applicants have amended the specification substantially to address the issues set forth in the office action. Specifically, the abstract has been amended to contain not more than 150 words. Page 40, line 14, has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. In addition, Applicants has reviewed the use of the JAVA trademark throughout the specification and determined that generic terminology is utilized with the trademark in a majority of the instances thereof. No new matter is believed added to the application by way of the proposed amendments to the specification as set forth herein.

Applicants have amended claim 5 to correct a typographical error. Specifically, claim 5 now recites a system further comprising "means for copying said third parameter into a data structure associated with said class loader which *loaded* said another class file" (Claim 5, lines 1-3). This amendment has not been made to distinguish over any other reference of record whether considered singularly or in combination.

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,430,569, Bracha et al., hereafter referred to as Bracha. In setting forth the rejection, the Examiner has cited specific sections of Bracha which are alleged to disclose the limitation of claims 1, 7 and 11, as well as their respective dependent claims. After review of the portions of the Bracha reference provided, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as improper. Specifically, to anticipate a claim, a reference must teach every element of the claim (MPEP Section 2131). A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

Claim 1, specifically recites an object-oriented computer system comprising "means for creating a data structure for recording a constraint as an *asymmetric* relationship between two class loaders, wherein said data structure comprises ... a first parameter denoting the class file which is identified by a descriptor in said symbolic reference, and a second parameter denoting the class loader which loaded said another class file" (claim 1, lines 10-16). Such limitation is disclosed in great detail in the subject specification (page 36, line 20 - page 41, line 14; Figs. 5 and 6A-6E). The sections of Bracha cited by the Examiner as disclosing a constraint checking mechanism (col. 4, lines 51- 56), disclose a method for ensuring class type safe linkage which requires that the type of a referenced attribute, when a loaded by a loader that defines the referencing class, be the same type for the same attribute when loaded by a loader that defines the referenced class (Bracha, col. 4, lines 51- 56). Accordingly, Bracha discloses a method for showing attribute compliance between the referencing class and the referenced class, which relationship appears to be symmetric, not *asymmetric*, as disclosed in and claimed in the subject application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner has failed to indicate where Bracha discloses such a limitation, and, that claim 1 is patentable over Bracha, or any other reference of record, whether considered singularly or in combinations. Method claims 7 and 11 include language substantially similar to claim 1 and are likewise believed patentable over Bracha,

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or any other reference of record, whether considered singularly or in combinations, for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations (claims 7, lines 11-15; claim 11, lines 9-15).

Claims 2-6 include all of the limitations of claim 1 and are likewise believed patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations. In particular, claims 2 recites the data structure as further including "a third parameter denoting the object reference to said class file which is identified by a descriptor in said symbolic reference" (claim 2, lines 2-3). Similarly, claims 3 recites the data structure as further including "a fourth parameter, denoting the object reference to said class file which is identified by a descriptor in said symbolic reference " (claim 3, lines 2-3). The sections of Bracha cited by the Examiner (col. 5, lines 8-12 and 15) do not disclose parameters that are analogous to those recited in claims 2 and 3, respectively. In this regard, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Figure 5 of the subject application and its accompanying description. In addition to the reasons set forth with respect to the traversal of the rejection of claim 1, Applicants additionally assert that the Examiner has failed to indicate where Bracha discloses the limitations of third and fourth parameter stored within the data structure as recited in claims 2 and 3, respectively.
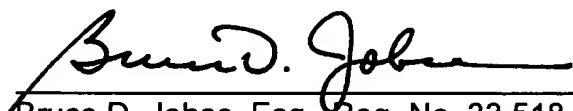
In addition, claim 6 recites "each class loader has its own cache, and the data structure for a class loader is stored in the cache for that class loader" (claim 6, lines 1-3). In this regard, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Figures 6A-6E of the subject application and its accompanying description. The sections of Bracha cited by the Examiner as disclosing the limitations of claim sacks (col. 3, lines 49-52 and col. 5, lines 6-8) are actually believed to teach away from the invention. In Bracha, the loaded class cache (LCC) maps a class name and an initiating class loader to a runtime representation of the class. The class name and initiating class loader constitute a key into the loaded class cache (col. 5, lines 8-11). Accordingly, in addition to the reasons set forth with respect to the traversal of the rejection of claim 1, Applicants additionally assert that the Examiner has failed to indicate where

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Bracha discloses the limitations of claim 6. Claims 8 and 12 include language substantially similar to claim 6 and are likewise believed patentable over Bracha, or any other reference of record, whether considered singularly or in combinations, for at least the same reasons as claim 6 as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Claims 8-9 include all of the limitations of claim 7 and are likewise believed patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 7, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations. Similarly, claims 8-9 include all of the limitations of claim 11 and are likewise believed patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 11, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Applicants believe the claims are in allowable condition. A notice of allowance for this application is solicited earnestly. If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he/she is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the number listed below. The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any balances under 37 CFR §1.17, and 1.16 to Deposit Account No. DA-12-2158.

Respectfully submitted,

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